

REMARKS

The non-final Office Action of 19 December 2007 has been received and its contents carefully studied. Claims 1-25 are pending. The independent claims are claims 1, 11, 19, 21, 22, and 24. The Office Action states that all claims are rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as anticipated by *Inoue et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,332,024). Applicant respectfully submits that the present amended claims are neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited *Inoue* reference.

The Office Action Has Not Given Any Explanation for Rejection of Claim 11

Applicant respectfully submits that no reasons are given why *Inoue* anticipates present independent claim 11. Clarification is therefore requested regarding independent claim 11. Applicant cannot respond to the rejection of claim 11 without knowing what part of the *Inoue* reference is being relied upon.

Likewise, claims 12-18 depend from claim 11, and therefore Applicant cannot respond to the rejections of claims 11-18 without learning why *Inoue* is being cited as a reference against claim 11.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests another non-final Office Action (or a Notice of Allowance), because a final Office Action would be premature at this point.

Brief Summary of Invention

The present invention provides a method for displaying a menu on a display. This method includes activating a selection element, which causes a magnified version of the activated selection to appear, and causes an auxiliary element to be displayed only in the active selection element.

The auxiliary element may include a directional indicator, and activating the directional indicator activates a different selection element located in the direction indicated. Several of the present claims are now amended in order to clarify these features of the present invention. No new matter is introduced, and all of the amendments are fully supported by the specification as originally filed.

Brief Summary of the Cited *Inoue* Reference

A portable terminal has a display screen and also has a main “soft key” which can be rotated and which can also be pressed. The terminal additionally has a first auxiliary soft key and second auxiliary soft key, which can both be pressed. In this portable terminal of *Inoue*, for each communication mode, a function having the highest frequency of use is allocated to the main soft key, and functions having the next highest frequency of use are allocated to the first auxiliary soft key and second auxiliary soft key. Marks representing the allocated functions are displayed on the display screen near these three keys, as a main-function icon and auxiliary-function icon.

Amended Claims 1-10 and 19-25 are not Disclosed or Suggested by *Inoue*

Many features of present amended claim 1 are absent from *Inoue*. Although the Office Action (page 2, last paragraph) points to column 6, lines 13-40 for the idea of magnifying a selection element, Applicant has not found such a discussion of magnification at column 6, lines 13-40.

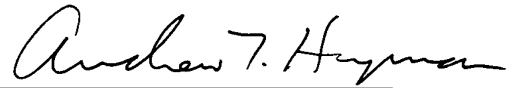
Likewise, the Applicant has not been able to find anything in *Inoue* that teaches or suggests a directional indicator (located within the magnified selection element) indicating possible navigating directions for activating another of the selection elements that has been displayed outside the magnified selection element. The Office Action (page 3, third paragraph) says that this feature is shown in Figure 13F of *Inoue*. However, if the Office Action is referring to the arrows in Figure 13F, those arrows do not direct the user away from the selection element shown in Figure 13F. There is no auxiliary element in Figure 13F that directs the user from “1 News” to any of the other listed items in Figure 13E, or to any of the other modes shown in FIGs. 13A-13E.

The arrows shown in Figure 13F are part of the browser-function icon group of Figure 15. Selecting these arrows causes browser processing (see column 17, lines 45-46), instead of causing navigation to activate other selection elements displayed on the menu, as presently claimed.

Conclusion

For these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the independent claims are allowable, and consequently the claims dependent therefrom are allowable. Applicant would be grateful if the Examiner would please contact Applicant's attorney by telephone if the Examiner detects anything in the present response that might hinder a speedy allowance. Early passage to issue is therefore earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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